

ICDC Soldiers Hit the Street with the 1st Cav. Div.

By Spc. Jan Critchfield

122nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq- Select Iraqi Civil Defense Corps (ICDC) soldiers have been assigned to join Task Force Baghdad troops patrolling the city streets here, lending their familiarity with the city to the coalition goal of making this a safer place to live.

Understanding the culture and language of the Iraqi people are two of the most daunting tasks facing U.S. troops patrolling Iraq. In order to track down terrorists and criminals, soldiers have to be trusted and understood by those Iraqi citizens with vital information that could lead to an arrest.

Interpreters work well to overcome the language barrier; politeness, tactful language, and a smile often gains trust. But where those interpersonal skills might fail, the simple solution of one Iraqi speaking with another does not.

The field of psychological operations demands exactly what the ICDC has to offer: street smarts, and a comprehensive knowledge of what's going

on with the people of Baghdad. That's why, for the last two months, an even mix of 345th Psychological Operations Team members and ICDC soldiers have been scouring the streets for those who would choose to interrupt the peace.

One such ICDC soldier, a corporal, says that he just wants to "draw the love between the people [of Baghdad]."

Bringing a personal stake to the job, soldiers like him are working to improve the very neighborhood they live in. Ending the careers of bomb-makers and terrorists becomes a very personal undertaking, and also promotes a sense of connectivity with the job that might not be felt by ICDC soldiers who, for instance, guard sensitive sites but whose significance is not at all as immediate for them.

This ICDC corporal, a 26-year-old Baghdad native, is guarding the most sensitive site possible: his own home.

"We speak with the people ... and tell them that bad guys want to destroy our country and

Continued on Page 3



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

Iraqi Civil Defense Corps soldiers paint over anti-coalition vandalism on the courtyard wall of a central Baghdad church.

Lead singer of the
Rollins Band
Former frontman of
the legendary 80s
punk band Black Flag
Writer/Publisher
Actor
Spokesman of under-
ground America

HENRY ROLLINS
appearing at the
BLACK JACK DFAC

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26
1230 - 1400



Soldiers Magazine

Spur The Moment

What's the strangest thing you've seen since arriving in Iraq?

"The traffic is crazy. It's like that one movie *Cannonball Run*. Everyone is just trying to get to where they're going with total disregard for any kind of traffic law or signs."



SSG Neil Grullon,
C Co. 3-82 FA

"The strangest thing I saw was those little mud houses we saw coming up here. It looks like only one person could fit in, but the whole family lives there."



PFC Tiffani Gordon,
HHC 312 MI Bn.

"The strangest thing is probably the kids and how they react to us; always really nice and asking for chocolate."



SPC Jason Leslie,
HHC 2BCT

"I saw a civilian fuel truck that was on fire. It was burning and the civilians were still trying to get fuel out of it. One end was burning and on the other end they were [still] trying to get



SSG Anthony Amerio,
744 Transportation Co.

Photos by Pfc. Al Barrus, 122nd MPAD

Buckle Up:

Senior Occupant Responsible for Safety
By Spc. Michelle Newbold
1st Cavalry Division PAO

You are following a vehicle in a convoy when the driver in front of you suddenly slams on his brakes. You hit your brakes. You're too late. The tires squeal, but the impact is hard. You're fine, just a little shaken up. Your passenger, however, flew into the windshield, sustaining serious injuries. The difference between you two: You were wearing your seatbelt; he was not.

1st Cavalry Division Safety Director Dale Smith has noticed Soldiers not wearing seatbelts more and more frequently.

"We stop vehicles all the time with Soldiers not wearing seatbelts," Smith said. "The prevailing attitude is that it doesn't matter because we're in a combat zone."

This attitude can lead to injury or death. A recent incident occurred when one vehicle broadsided another, knocking a Soldier completely out of the vehicle.

"It was a direct result of not wearing a seatbelt," Smith said.

Fortunately, the Soldier received only minor injuries.

"Bumps, bruises and scratches; that's what we call a near miss," Smith added.

Part of the problem, Smith

said, is that senior occupants of the vehicle are not taking care of their Soldiers.

"It is the senior occupants responsibility to ensure safety," he stressed.

Senior occupants are required to enforce all safety rules within the vehicle, including the wear of seatbelts. Soldiers are not only neglecting seatbelts in tactical vehicles, but non-tactical vehicles as well.

"It is a widespread problem," Smith said.

According to the Department of Defense, vehicle accidents are the primary cause of noncombat deaths in Iraq.

Some Soldiers complain that they will not be able to get out of the vehicle during a combat situation while wearing a seatbelt.

"There has been no case where a Soldier has died because he couldn't get out of a seatbelt in a combat situation," said Mike Foyle, the division's deputy safety officer.

A seatbelt can prevent you from falling out of a vehicle, and can keep you restrained during sudden stops, turns, and bumps, but they are useless when not worn.

Remember, you can save your own life. Buckle up.



Commanding General: Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli
Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. James Hutton
122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment Cmdr: Maj. John Fuhrman
Public Affairs Supervisor: Master Sgt. Dave Larsen
1st Sgt. 122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment: 1st Sgt. William Kuhns
Editor: Sgt. Susan German
Staff Writers: Staff Sgt. Tony Sailer, Sgt. Merrion LaSonde, Sgt. Dan Purcell, Cpl. Benjamin Cossel, Cpl. Bill Putnam, Spc. Jan Critchfield, Spc.

Bryan Kinkade, Spc. Andy Miller, Spc. Michelle Newbold, Spc. Marie Whitney, Pfc. Al Barrus, Pfc. Erik LeDrew

The Daily Charge is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of **The Daily Charge** are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 1st Cavalry Division. All editorial content of **The Daily Charge** is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs Office.

345th Psyops Team Helps ICDC Keep Iraq Informed

Continued from Page 1

stop the progress that is happening these days," the corporal said of his typical tasking when rolling out with the 345th.

"I am very proud when working with coalition forces," the corporal said, "I worked hard for months in order to work with Coalition forces."

"The [ICDC] soldiers that we've had are motivated [and] patriotic. They know the future of Iraq rests on them," said Sgt. Martin Morales, a member of the 345th who is out on the streets of Baghdad with ICDC soldiers everyday.

"When we first took [ICDC] out into our sector, people would walk up to them and say 'Mister, mister!' and [the ICDC] would say 'I'm not a mister! I'm an Iraqi!' Once the kids found out they were ICDC soldiers they came up and started kissing them, ran into their homes and told their moms and it was like a block party. They were happy to see Iraqi soldiers out on the street, keeping it safe," Morales said.

Contrary to such positive attitudes, reports of insurgents terrorizing those Iraqis employed by the U.S. in Baghdad are not uncommon,

Morales said.

"There are a lot of people out there that are afraid because they've been threatened by insurgents ... that if they came to work, they'd [be killed]," Morales explained. "These [insurgents] are cowards. That motivates me even more to go out and catch these people."

The 345th also distributes the coalition-produced newspaper *Baghdad Now*, in addition to the task of speaking with the citizens about their feelings concerning various subjects, helping to gauge what type of project might be of benefit of the locals.

"The biggest thing we

have going right now is *Baghdad Now*," said Sgt. Mark Powers, an assistant team leader with the 345th. "It puts out information about what's going on throughout Baghdad. We also have posters we put up letting the people [of Baghdad] know about the new constitution and bill of rights."

People flocked to the Humvee distributing the newspaper, risking being struck by traffic to get a copy. Several people even stopped their vehicles while traveling in the opposite direction and holding up traffic, just to get a copy. A few locals even grabbed a bit of the stack and started passing them out themselves.

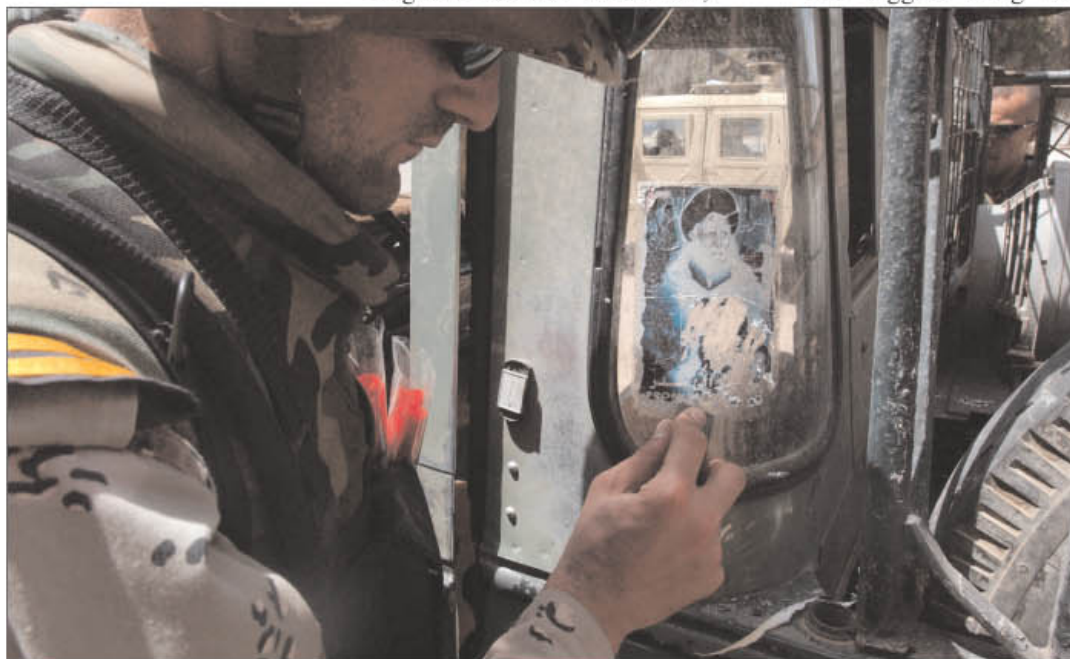
"It gets pretty wild sometimes," Morales said. "We have a great time."

The 345th team members have seen progress in the neighborhoods they patrol over the past few months.

"I think our area has made a whole lot of progress," Powers said, "A lot of people sat on the fence when we got here. Now, a lot of people are starting to help the coalition."

The team's ICDC member agrees.

"Everyone who loves our country [should] recruit ICDC to protect the people who live in our country," the ICDC corporal said. "I hope that progress will happen in Fallujah like it happens in Baghdad."



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

An Iraqi Civil Defense Corps corporal scrapes the image of Muqtada Al-Sadr from the cab of a vehicle. The vehicle owner consented to the removal of a few pro-Sadr stickers after a brief talk with Soldiers of the 345th Psychological Operations Battalion concerning the meaning of such pro-Sadr propaganda.

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

Soldier

jun-dee

Tuesday
High: 104
Low: 74



Wednesday
High: 105
Low: 75



Thursday
High: 106
Low: 75



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office

Agassi to Grace Cover of Wheaties Box

► From AP

GOLDEN VALLEY, Minn.- Andre Agassi got his own Wheaties box — just as he lost in the French Open.

Wheaties announced Monday that it will honor Agassi with a special-edition box to mark the start of this week's French Open.

Agassi was eliminated on the first day of play by Jerome Haehnel, a qualifier from France ranked 271st, who pulled off an upset to rival the biggest in Grand Slam history.

Playing his first tour-level match at age 23, Haehnel beat Agassi 6-4, 7-6 (4), 6-3.

Agassi, the sixth seed in the tournament, was honored by the "Breakfast of Champions" for his eight Grand Slam titles and 58 career singles titles.

Other tennis players featured on the Wheaties box in the past include Don Budge, Chris Evert, Arthur Ashe, Althea Gibson and Pete Sampras.



Playing in his 16th championship tournament and seeking his 800th career victory, Andre Agassi was ousted from the first round of the French Open by Frenchman Jerome Haehnel. Wheaties boxes featuring Agassi's photograph will be available nationally.

FIRST TEAM

TV GUIDE	AFN ATLANTIC	AFN PACIFIC	AFN Sports	AFN Spectrum
18:00	Lizzie McGuire/ All That!	Tonight Show with Jay Leno/ The Late Show with David Letterman	NBA-Eastern Conf. Finals Gm 2: Detroit Pistons @ Indiana Pacers 17:00 (delayed)	Stuart Little 17:00/ Ebert & Roeper At the Movies 18:30
19:00	Jeopardy/ Headline News	Access Hollywood 19:45	SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys/ Spongebob Squarepants
20:00	ESPNNews/ Headline News	Air Bud 20:15	French Open Tennis - Early Round Coverage Day 2	The Simpsons/ The Cosby Show
21:00	7th Heaven			Monk
22:00	Ocean's Eleven	Outrageous Fortune 20:15		ER

Today in History

May 25

► From historychannel.com

1787 Constitutional Convention convenes in Philadelphia
1861 President Lincoln suspends the writ of habeas corpus during the Civil War
1862 First battle of Winchester, Va.
1944 Operation Knight's Move is launched
1969 National Democratic Front formed in Saigon
1975 Grizzly bear is classified as a "threatened" species
1977 Chinese government removes ban on Shakespeare
1979 Worst air crash in U.S. history
1992 Jay Leno's first *Tonight Show*



MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Toronto 6 (10 innings)
Anaheim 5

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Florida 13
Arizona 5

Atlanta 5
Montreal 0

Cincinnati 7
Houston 5



NBA

CONFERENCE

FINALS

(Best of 7 series)

Eastern Conference

Detroit 72
Indiana 67
(Series tied 1-1)



NHL

STANLEY CUP FINALS

(Best of 7 series)

Calgary (Game 1: Tuesday 5/25)
@ Tampa Bay
(Series tied 0-0)